

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 22, 2009. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

By the above amendment, claims 12-22 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 23-35. Thus, claims 23-35 are currently pending in the present application.

On page 2 (items 1-3) of the Office Action, claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In response, claim 22 has been cancelled and replaced with new claim 35. The new claim has been drafted to comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In particular, the language "such as" and "other melts suitable for producing fertilizer product" does not appear in new claim 35. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 22 has been obviated by the cancellation of claim 22 and the presentation of new claim 35.

Next, the specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised in order to make a number of minor clarifying and other editorial amendments. Due to the nature of the revision involved, a substitute specification and abstract has been prepared. No new matter has been added. Also enclosed is a "marked-up" copy of the original specification and abstract to show the changes that have been incorporated into the substitute specification and abstract. The enclosed copy is entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Next, on page 2 (item 4) of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 12-21 are allowable. Claims 12-21 have been rewritten as new claims 23-34. The new claims are presented to improve the form of the claims and to ensure compliance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Independent claims 23, 33 and 34 correspond to allowed claims 12, 20 and 21, respectively, and include all of the limitations thereof. Thus, claims 23, 33 and 34 are clearly

allowable. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from allowable claim 23, and are therefore allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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